

HOUSE RESOLUTION 103

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Tracey McCartney of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Tracey McCartney; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McCartney was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Tracey McCartney served with acumen and alacrity for eighteen years as executive director of the Tennessee Fair Housing Council, in which position she earned the utmost respect of her colleagues for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, upon taking the helm at the Tennessee Fair Housing Council in 1998, she guided the organization in fulfilling its mission of educating the public and helping enforce federal laws that prohibit housing discrimination through leadership, education, outreach, public policy initiatives, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, Tracey McCartney oversaw Tennessee Fair Housing Council's day-to-day office operations; her duties also included setting the broad direction of the agency and supervising the enforcement staff on testing, case intake, and litigation; and

WHEREAS, concurrent with her post at the Tennessee Fair Housing Council, Ms. McCartney was a highly sought-after trainer and consultant, and she oversaw the National Fair Housing Council's website; and

WHEREAS, prior to moving to Nashville, Tracey McCartney worked for three years with the Central Alabama Fair Housing Center, where she was one of the inaugural employees in 1995; in this capacity, she coordinated 516 individual testing visits in rental, sales, and mortgage lending and helped with forty-eight individual insurance tests; and

WHEREAS, she also handled 141 complaints of housing discrimination, which were in addition to hundreds of inquiries that implicated landlord-tenant disputes or other nondiscrimination issues that were referred elsewhere; she provided counseling on the law, testing, conciliation, referral to HUD for investigation, and referral to attorneys for litigation, and she recruited and trained ninety testers for the Alabama center's enforcement program; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McCartney earned her law degree from the University of Alabama in 1995; during her studies, she worked for two and one-half years as a clerk/advocate for the Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program and gained valuable fair-housing experience, particularly with regard to group homes, zoning, and reasonable accommodation issues; and

WHEREAS, well respected and admired in her field, Tracey McCartney was always willing to go the extra mile; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McCartney was a woman whose compassion compelled her life's work, and her top priority was ensuring that all individuals were treated fairly; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McCartney was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Tracey McCartney is survived by her loving spouse, Nancy Blomgren, and a host of family and friends who mourn her passing; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McCartney's ashes will be scattered in a creek that runs by a 200-year-old white oak tree on her parent's land in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Tracey McCartney leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Tracey McCartney, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. McCartney.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.